

# Regular Meeting

<b>Agenda Item #</b>	4
<b>Meeting Date</b>	March 26, 2007
<b>Prepared By</b>	Daryl Braithwaite Public Works Director
<b>Approved By</b>	Barbara B. Matthews City Manager

<b>Discussion Item</b>	Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement
<b>Background</b>	<p>The U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement was endorsed by the U.S. Conference of Mayors in 2005. Mayors who sign on to the agreement are making a commitment to have their cities "strive to meet or exceed Kyoto Protocol targets for reducing global warming pollution by taking actions reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their own cities and communities."</p> <p>Additional information can be found at:  <a href="http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/climate/default.htm#how">http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/climate/default.htm#how</a></p>
<b>Policy</b>	The agreement is consistent with positions previously endorsed by the City Council.
<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	Signing the agreement will have no fiscal impact because many of the recommended activities are already included in current staff workplans and operating budgets.
<b>Attachments</b>	<p>Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement</p> <p>Information Sheet on the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement</p> <p>US Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement - Signature Page</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	Council to adopt resolution.
<b>Special Consideration</b>	The Committee on the Environment has recommended that the Mayor sign the agreement.

Introduced by:

**Resolution 2007-\_\_**  
**RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE U.S. MAYORS CLIMATE PROTECTION**  
**AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS,** the U.S. Conference of Mayors has adopted “The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement” and has urged all mayors to participate; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Takoma Park has already taken a number of steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and global warming pollution, including the use of alternative fuel and hybrid vehicles in the City fleet, purchase of wind energy, protection of the urban forest, promotion of tree planting, support for mass transit options, and taking steps to create a more pedestrian and bicycle friendly environment; and

**WHEREAS,** the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement which, as amended at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting, reads:

***The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement***

*A. We urge the federal government and state governments to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the target of reducing global warming pollution levels to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012, including efforts to: reduce the United States’ dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the development of clean, economical energy resources and fuel-efficient technologies such as conservation, methane recovery for energy generation, waste to energy, wind and solar energy, fuel cells, efficient motor vehicles, and biofuels;*

*B. We urge the U.S. Congress to pass bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation that includes 1) clear timetables and emissions limits and 2) a flexible, market-based system of tradable allowances among emitting industries; and*

*C. We will strive to meet or exceed Kyoto Protocol targets for reducing global warming pollution by taking actions in our own operations and communities such as:*

- 1. Inventory global warming emissions in City operations and in the community, set reduction targets and create an action plan.*
- 2. Adopt and enforce land-use policies that reduce sprawl, preserve open space, and create compact, walkable urban communities;*
- 3. Promote transportation options such as bicycle trails, commute trip reduction programs, incentives for car pooling and public transit;*
- 4. Increase the use of clean, alternative energy by, for example, investing in “green tags”, advocating for the development of renewable energy resources, recovering landfill methane for energy production, and supporting the use of waste to energy technology;*
- 5. Make energy efficiency a priority through building code improvements, retrofitting city*

*facilities with energy efficient lighting and urging employees to conserve energy and save money;*

- 6. Purchase only Energy Star equipment and appliances for City use;*
- 7. Practice and promote sustainable building practices using the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED program or a similar system;*
- 8. Increase the average fuel efficiency of municipal fleet vehicles; reduce the number of vehicles; launch an employee education program including anti-idling messages; convert diesel vehicles to bio-diesel;*
- 9. Evaluate opportunities to increase pump efficiency in water and wastewater systems; recover wastewater treatment methane for energy production;*
- 10. Increase recycling rates in City operations and in the community;*
- 11. Maintain healthy urban forests; promote tree planting to increase shading and to absorb CO<sub>2</sub>; and*
- 12. Help educate the public, schools, other jurisdictions, professional associations, business and industry about reducing global warming pollution.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, hereby endorses the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and authorizes the Mayor to sign the agreement on behalf of the City.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 2007.

## US Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement – Signature Page

You have my support for the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Contact Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please add my comments in support of the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.  
We will add these to the Website (*optional*):

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Please return completed form at your earliest convenience to:

### **US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement**

By Mail:  
c/o City of Seattle  
Office of Sustainability and Environment  
Seattle Municipal Tower  
PO Box 94729  
Seattle, WA 98124-4729

By Fax: (206) 684-3013

By Email: [jeanie.boawn@seattle.gov](mailto:jeanie.boawn@seattle.gov)

For more Information: (206) 615-0817



City of Seattle

Greg Nickels, Mayor

# US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

## How many mayors have signed the Agreement?

As of January 18, 2007, 367 mayors from both political parties representing over 55 million Americans in all 50 states and Washington, D.C. have signed on. Mayors of seven of the ten largest US cities have signed along with mid-size and smaller cities.

## What does the Agreement do?

Mayors who sign on to the Agreement are making a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their own cities and communities to 7% below 1990 levels by 2012 through actions like increasing energy efficiency, reducing vehicle miles traveled, maintaining healthy urban forests, reducing sprawl and promoting use of clean, renewable energy resources. The Resolution also encourages the federal government to assist cities in sharing best practices on local climate protection programs. The Agreement also calls for Congress to pass legislation that sets meaningful timelines and limits on emissions through a flexible, market-based cap and trade system.

## What is the connection to the US Conference of Mayors?

The US Conference of Mayors (USCM) unanimously endorsed the Agreement in June 2005 and now urges all mayors to participate. A partnership of the USCM and ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) was formed to help participating cities implement the Agreement and to track progress. A Mayors Council on Climate Protection has formed under the auspices of the USCM that will provide oversight and work on climate protection policy at the federal level.

## What's happened since the USCM Endorsement?

Cities throughout the country are taking action on climate disruption. In addition to the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, there's been a lot of other activity, such as:

- Coordinated state leadership in the Northeast (the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative) and in California to set emissions targets and implement cap-and-trade systems.
- Major business leaders, including several Fortune 500 Companies like GE, DuPont and Wal-Mart have made strong commitments to clean energy and emissions reductions.
- The US Mayors Climate Action Handbook ([www.iclei.org/us](http://www.iclei.org/us)), a short resource guide for mayors to take climate action was launched.
- Building on the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, the US Conference of Mayors endorsed the 2030 Challenge,

## Why is this agreement important to mayors?

- Mayors recognize that climate disruption is a distinctly local issue and that action is urgent. Cities throughout the US are already feeling major climate impacts—and citizens turn to their local governments first for help during droughts, extreme storm events, dangerous heat waves, floods, and wildfires.
- Mayors know that actions to reduce global warming pollution provide additional benefits that are important to the quality of life in American cities, including cleaner air, decreased dependence on imported oil and gas, more livable and economically vibrant communities, healthy urban forests and reduced energy bills.
- Mayors understand the needs of their constituents. Public opinion polls demonstrate that citizens across the country know climate disruption is happening (more than 85%, according to a Time/Stanford poll in April 2006)—and they are calling for quick action.
- Mayors know that taking action now reduces the impacts – and costs – of climate disruption.

*Visit [www.seattle.gov/mayor/climate](http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/climate) for more information, including participation forms, media coverage, climate resource links and the latest list of signers.*